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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/828,469-Conf. #5223	
			Filing Date	April 21, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	Michael D. Laufer	
			Art Unit	3773	
			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
Sheet	1	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA*	US-4,144,890	03-20-1979	Hess	
	AB*	US-4,635,637	01-13-1987	Schreiber	
	AC*	US-5,464,426	11-07-1995	Bonutti	
	AD*	US-4,724,840	02-16-1988	McVay et al.	
	AE*	US-5,395,030	03-07-1995	Kuramoto et al.	
	AF*	US-5,855,311	01-05-1999	Hamblin et al.	
	AG*	US-5,887,594	03-30-1999	LoCicero, III	
	AH*	US-6,663,639	12-16-2003	Laufer et al.	
	AI*	US-6,835,200	12-28-2004	Laufer et al.	
	AJ*	US-6,558,400	05-06-2003	Deem et al.	
	AK*	US-20040082963-A1	04-29-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	AL*	US-6,454,778	09-24-2002	Kortenbach	
	AM*	US-6,540,789	04-01-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AN*	US-20040059350-A1	03-25-2004	Gordon et al.	
	AO*	US-4,841,888	06-27-1989	Mills et al.	
	AP*	US-20040006351-A1	01-08-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	AQ*	US-5,080,663	01-14-1992	Mills et al.	
	AR*	US-5,810,855	09-22-1998	Rayburn et al.	
	AS*	US-20030195387-A1	10-16-2003	Kortenbach et al.	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	† ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BB**	EP-0593920	04-27-1994	United States Surgical Corp		
	BC**	EP-0480428	04-15-1992	Wilson Cook Medical Inc		
	BD**	EP-0576265	12-29-1993	Ethicon Inc		
	BE	EP-9668058	08-23-1995	Novoste Corp		
	BF	EP-0743044	11-20-1996	Bard Inc C R		

Examiner Signature	/Julian Woo/	Date Considered	07/29/2009
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	AT*	US-5,433,721	07-18-1995	Hooven et al.	
	AU*	US-6,352,503	03-05-2002	Matsui et al.	
	AV*	US-6,569,085-A1	05-27-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AW*	US-6,743,240-A1	06-01-2004	Smith et al.	
	AX*	US-4,809,695	03-07-1989	Gwathmey et al.	
	AY*	US-5,662,683	09-02-1997	Kay	
	AZ*	US-4,741,336	05-03-1988	Failla et al.	
	AA1*	US-20030191478-A1	10-09-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AB1*	US-20020138086-A1	09-26-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AC1*	US-20020198541-A1	12-26-2002	Smith et al.	
	AD1*	US-5,037,021	08-06-1991	Mills et al.	
	AE1*	US-5,571,116	11-05-1996	Bolanos et al.	
	AF1*	US-5,897,562	04-27-1999	Bolanos et al.	
	AG1*	US-6,113,609	09-05-2000	Adams	
	AH1*	US-5,571,090	11-05-1996	Sherfs	
	AI1*	US-6,221,084	04-24-2001	Fleenor	
	AJ1*	US-20030167062	09-04-2003	Gambale et al.	
	AK1*	US-6,179,840	01-30-2001	Bowman	
	AL1*	US-6,945,979	09-20-2005	Kortenbach et al.	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BG	EP-0975263	02-02-2000	Bard Inc C R et al.		
	BH**	FR-2768324	03-19-1999	Seguin Jacques		
	BI	GB-2075829	11-25-1981	Watson & Ewen Ltd		
	BJ	JP-61122852	06-10-1986	Univ Karetsuji Rondon		
	BK**	WO-8911827	12-14-1989	Nierman David M		
	BL	WO-9900059	01-07-1999	Univ Columbia et al.		

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	AM1*	US-6,843,794	01-18-2005	Sixto, Jr. et al.	
	AN1*	US-6,824,548	11-30-2004	Smith et al.	
	AO1*	US-6,716,226	04-06-2004	Sixto, Jr. et al.	
	AP1*	US-20020078967	06-27-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AQ1*	US-20020068945	06-06-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AR1*	US-4,649,938	03-17-1987	McArthur	
	AS1*	US-5,324,325	06-28-1994	Moaddeb	
	AT1*	US-20010049537	12-06-2001	Kortenbach	
	AU1*	US-6,086,603	07-11-2000	Termin et al.	
	AV1*	US-3,551,987	01-05-1971		
	AW1*	US-4,500,024	02-19-1985	DiGiovanni et al.	
	AX1*	US-5,558,665	09-24-1996	Kieturakis	
	AY1*	US-5,826,776	10-27-1998	Schulze et al.	
	AZ1*	US-5,901,895	05-11-1999	Heaton et al.	
	AA2*	US-7,066,944	06-27-2006	Laufer et al.	
	AB2*	US-5,088,979	02-18-1992	Filipi et al.	
	AC2*	US-5,465,894	11-14-1995	Clark et al.	
	AD2*	US-5,787,897	08-04-1998	Kieturakis	
	AE2*	US-6,086,600	07-11-2000	Kortenbach	

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	BM**	WO-9922649	05-14-1999	Symbiosis Corp et al.		
	BN**	WO-9960931	12-02-1999	Boston Scient Ltd		
	BO**	WO-0035529	06-22-2000	Syntheon Llc		
	BP**	WO-0078227	12-28-2000	Ndo Surgical Inc et al.		
	BQ**	WO-0078229	12-28-2000	Ndo Medical Inc et al.		
	BR	WO-01085034	11-15-2001	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		

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			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AF2*	US-6,159,146	12-12-2000	El Gazayerli	
	AG2*	US-1,343,289	06-15-1920	Suchy	
	AH2*	US-1,548,250	08-04-1925	Bobner	
	AI2*	US-2,104,885	01-11-1938	robbins	
	AJ2*	US-2,199,025	04-30-1940	Conn	
	AK2*	US-3,399,432	09-03-1968	Merser	
	AL2*	US-3,470,875	10-07-1969	Johnson	
	AM2*	US-3,636,594	01-25-1972	Faivre et al.	
	AN2*	US-3,638,653	02-01-1972	Berry	
	AO2*	US-3,734,375	05-22-1973	Bone et al.	
	AP2*	US-3,749,085	07-31-1973	Willson et al.	
	AQ2*	US-3,842,840	10-22-1974	Schweizer	
	AR2*	US-3,875,648	04-08-1975	Bone	
	AS2*	US-3,900,925	08-26-1975	La Torraca	
	AT2*	US-3,901,244	08-26-1975	Schweizer	
	AU2*	US-3,933,291	01-20-1976	Stephenson	
	AV2*	US-3,946,740	03-30-1976	Bassett	
	AW2*	US-4,006,747	02-08-1977	Kronenthal et al.	
	AX2*	US-4,164,225	08-14-1979	Johnson et al.	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BS**	WO-0224080	03-28-2002	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		
	BT	WO-0228289	04-11-2002	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BU**	WO-0240081	05-23-2002	Syntheon Llc et al.		
	BV**	WO-0245603	06-13-2002	Syntheon Llc		
	BW	WO-0276541	10-03-2002	Curon Medical Inc		
	BX**	WO-0294341	11-28-2002	Syntheon Llc		

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	AY2*	US-4,229,930	10-28-1980	Ostermaier	
	AZ2*	US-4,448,194	05-15-1984	DiGiovanni et al.	
	AA3*	US-4,471,781	09-18-1984	Di Giovanni et al.	
	AB3*	US-4,506,670	03-26-1985	Crossley	
	AC3*	US-4,573,469	03-04-1986	Golden et al.	
	AD3*	US-4,585,153	04-29-1986	Failla et al.	
	AE3*	US-4,591,085	05-27-1986	Di Giovanni	
	AF3*	US-4,605,004	08-12-1986	Di Giovanni et al.	
	AG3*	US-4,606,345	08-19-1986	Dorband et al.	
	AH3*	US-4,627,437	12-09-1986	Bedi et al.	
	AI3*	US-4,653,496	03-31-1987	Bundy et al.	
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	AN3*	US-4,862,359	08-29-1989	Trivedi et al.	
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	BY**	WO-03000115	01-03-2003	Syntheon Lic		
	BZ**	WO-03004087	01-16-2003	Syntheon Lic		
	BA1**	WO-03007796	01-30-2003	Ndo Surgical Inc et al.		
	BB1**	WO-03015604	02-27-2003	Syntheon Lic et al.		
	BC1	WO-03030782	04-17-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		
	BD1	WO-03035649	05-01-2003	Pfizer Pharma et al.		

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	AR3*	US-5,015,249	05-14-1991	Nakao et al.	
	AS3*	US-5,037,433	08-06-1991	Wilk et al.	
	AT3*	US-5,147,373	09-15-1992	Ferzli	
	AU3*	US-5,222,963	06-29-1993	Brinkerhoff et al.	
	AV3*	US-5,230,344	07-27-1993	Ozdamar et al.	
	AW3*	US-5,254,126	10-19-1993	Filipi et al.	
	AX3*	US-5,309,923	05-10-1994	Leuchter et al.	
	AY3*	US-5,331,969	07-26-1994	Silberstein	
	AZ3*	US-5,336,263	08-09-1994	Ersek et al.	
	AA4*	US-5,346,504	09-13-1994	Ortiz et al.	
	AB4*	US-5,354,311	10-11-1994	Kambin et al.	
	AC4*	US-5,356,416	10-18-1994	Chu et al.	
	AD4*	US-5,358,508	10-25-1994	Cobb et al.	
	AE4*	US-5,364,408	11-15-1994	Gordon	
	AF4*	US-5,383,260	01-24-1995	Deschenes et al.	
	AG4*	US-5,441,507	08-15-1995	Wilk	
	AH4*	US-5,447,512	09-05-1995	Wilson et al.	
	AI4*	US-5,451,406	09-19-1995	Lawin et al.	
	AJ4*	US-5,486,189	01-23-1996	Mudry et al.	

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	BE1	WO-03037256	05-08-2003	Young Charles W		
	BF1	WO-03053253	07-03-2003	Rex Medical Lp		
	BG1	WO-03072196	09-04-2003	Carbon Medical Technologies In		
	BH1**	WO-030804	10-09-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		
	BI1**	WO-03090633	11-06-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BJ1**	WO-03092498	11-13-2003	Medigus Ltd et al.		

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	AK4*	US-5,496,331	03-05-1996	Xu et al.	
	AL4*	US-5,522,820	06-04-1996	Caspari et al.	
	AM4*	US-5,549,618	08-27-1996	Fleenor et al.	
	AN4*	US-5,573,496	11-12-1996	McPherson et al.	
	AO4*	US-5,624,453	04-29-1997	Ahmed	
	AP4*	US-5,626,613	05-06-1997	Schmieding	
	AQ4*	US-5,645,552	07-08-1997	Sherts	
	AR4*	US-5,665,096	09-09-1997	Yoon	
	AS4*	US-5,671,507	09-30-1997	Deschenes et al.	
	AT4*	US-5,674,230	10-07-1997	Tovey et al.	
	AU4*	US-5,676,674	10-14-1997	Bolanos et al.	
	AV4*	US-5,697,940	12-16-1997	Chu et al.	
	AW4*	US-5,699,808	12-23-1997	John	
	AX4*	US-5,722,421	03-03-1998	Francese et al.	
	AY4*	US-5,725,524	03-10-1998	Mulier et al.	
	AZ4*	US-5,728,109	03-17-1998	Schulze et al.	
	AA5*	US-5,735,861	04-07-1998	Peifer et al.	
	AB5*	US-5,741,280	04-21-1998	Fleenor	
	AC5*	US-5,749,898	05-12-1998	Schulze et al.	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BK1**	WO-03092509	11-13-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BL1**	WO-03094800	11-20-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BM1**	WO-03098885	11-27-2003	Nippon Electric Co et al.		
	BN1**	WO-03099137	12-04-2003	Ndo Surgical Inc et al.		
	BO1**	WO-03099139	12-04-2003	Id Llc		
	BP1**	WO-03099140	12-04-2003	Esophyx Inc et al.		

Examiner Signature	/Julian Woo/	Date Considered	07/29/2009
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			Application Number	10/828,469-Conf. #5223	
			Filing Date	April 21, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	Michael D. Laufer	
			Art Unit	3773	
			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AD5*	US-5,788,138	08-04-1998	Deschenes et al.	
	AE5*	US-5,792,153	08-11-1998	Swain et al.	
	AF5*	US-5,792,478	08-11-1998	Lawin et al.	
	AG5*	US-5,794,948	08-18-1998	Schmitt et al.	
	AH5*	US-5,797,927	08-25-1998	Yoon	
	AI5*	US-5,810,882	09-22-1998	Bolduc et al.	
	AJ5*	US-5,814,054	09-29-1998	Kortenbach et al.	
	AK5*	US-5,846,254	12-08-1998	Schulze et al.	
	AL5*	US-5,853,409	12-29-1998	Swanson et al.	
	AM5*	US-5,893,592	04-13-1999	Schulze et al.	
	AN5*	US-5,899,915	05-04-1999	Saadat	
	AO5*	US-5,958,444	09-28-1999	Wallace et al.	
	AP5*	US-5,984,932	11-16-1999	Yoon	
	AQ5*	US-5,993,466	11-30-1999	Yoon	
	AR5*	US-6,009,877	01-04-2000	Edwards	
	AS5*	US-6,051,003	04-18-2000	Chu et al.	
	AT5*	US-6,059,798	05-09-2000	Tolkoff	
	AU5*	US-6,067,990	05-30-2000	Kieturakis	
	AV5*	US-6,083,202	07-04-2000	Smith	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BQ1**	WO-03099376	12-04-2003	Transneuronix Inc et al.		✓
	BR1**	WO-03105917	12-24-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BS1	WO-04004542	01-15-2004	Satiety Inc et al.		✓
	BT1	WO-04004544	01-15-2004	Foundry Inc		✓
	BU1	WO-04006990	01-22-2004	Scimed Life Systems Inc		✓
	BV1	WO-04019787	03-11-2004	Scimed Life Systems Inc		✓

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			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AW5*	US-6,098,629	08-08-2000	Johnson et al.	
	AX5*	US-6,129,761	10-10-2000	Hubbell	
	AY5*	US-6,152,935	11-28-2000	Kammerer et al.	
	AZ5*	US-6,238,335	05-29-2001	Silverman et al.	
	AA6*	US-6,254,642	07-03-2001	Taylor	
	AB6*	US-6,258,064	07-10-2001	Smith et al.	
	AC6*	US-6,267,285	07-31-2001	Raymond et al.	
	AD6*	US-6,325,503	12-04-2001	McCue, Jr. et al.	
	AE6*	US-6,387,104	05-14-2002	Pugsley, Jr. et al.	
	AF6*	US-6,478,210	11-12-2002	Adams et al.	
	AG6*	US-6,551,315	04-22-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AH6*	US-6,544,291	04-08-2003	Taylor	
	AI6*	US-6,544,503	04-08-2003	Vanderhoff et al.	
	AJ6*	US-6,547,776	04-15-2003	Gaiser et al.	
	AK6*	US-6,548,501	04-15-2003	Hakkinen	
	AL6*	US-6,548,518	04-15-2003	Rubin et al.	
	AM6*	US-6,551,328	04-22-2003	Kortenbach	
	AN6*	US-6,552,045	04-22-2003	Rubin et al.	
	AO6*	US-6,552,046	04-22-2003	Druzgala et al.	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BW1	WO-04019788	03-11-2004	Scimed Life Systems Inc		✓
	BX1	WO-04021872	03-18-2004	Bard Inc C R		✓
	BY1	WO-04021873	03-18-2004	Bard Inc C R		✓
	BZ1	WO-04021894	03-18-2004	Kelleher Brian		✓
	BA2	WO-04026348	04-01-2004	Sixto Robert Jr et al.		✓
	BB2	WO-04026349	04-01-2004	Smith Kevin W et al.		✓

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				Art Unit	3773
				Examiner Name	J. W. Woo
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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AP6*	US-6,552,047	04-22-2003	Garvey et al.	
	AQ6*	US-6,558,429	05-06-2003	Taylor	
	AR6*	US-6,559,165	05-06-2003	Rubin et al.	
	AS6*	US-6,562,034	05-13-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AT6*	US-6,562,795	05-13-2003	Ashley et al.	
	AU6*	US-6,569,105	05-27-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AV6*	US-6,579,301	06-17-2003	Bales et al.	
	AW6*	US-6,589,238	07-08-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AX6*	US-6,591,137	07-08-2003	Fischell et al.	
	AY6*	US-6,591,838	07-15-2003	Durgin	
	AZ6*	US-6,592,596	07-15-2003	Geitz	
	AA7*	US-6,592,609	07-15-2003	Bonutti	
	AB7*	US-6,595,909	07-22-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AC7*	US-6,595,910	07-22-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AD7*	US-6,604,004	08-05-2003	Zelickson et al.	
	AE7*	US-6,604,528	08-12-2003	Duncan	
	AF7*	US-6,605,078	08-12-2003	Adams	
	AG7*	US-6,613,047	09-02-2003	Edwards	
	AH7*	US-6,632,227	10-14-2003	Adams	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BC1**	EP-0646356	04-05-1995	Ethicon Inc		
	BC2	WO-04026350	04-01-2004	Kortenbach Juergen A et al.		✓
	BD2**	WO-05086885	09-22-2005	Laufer Michael D et al.		
	BE2	WO-9803151	01-29-1998	Einhorn Apotheke et al.		
	BF2	JP-1151461	06-14-1989	Koransha Kk		
	BG2	WO-02094341	11-28-2002	Syntheon Llc		
	BH2**	WO-04000129	12-31-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		

Examiner Signature	/Julian Woo/	Date Considered	07/29/2009
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			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AI7*	US-6,645,201	11-11-2003	Utley et al.	
	AJ7*	US-6,660,301	12-09-2003	Vogel et al.	
	AK7*	US-6,666,848	12-23-2003	Stone	
	AL7*	US-6,669,713	12-30-2003	Adams	
	AM7*	US-6,673,058	01-06-2004	Snow	
	AN7*	US-6,673,070	01-06-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AO7*	US-6,692,507	02-17-2004	Pugsley et al.	
	AP7*	US-6,695,764	02-24-2004	Silverman et al.	
	AQ7*	US-6,699,243	03-02-2004	West et al.	
	AR7*	US-6,712,074	03-30-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AS7*	US-6,712,814	03-30-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AT7*	US-6,725,866	04-27-2004	Johnson et al.	
	AU7*	US-6,790,214	09-14-2004	Kraemer et al.	
	AV7*	US-6,790,237	09-14-2004	Stinson	
	AW7*	US-6,808,491	10-26-2004	Kortenbach et al.	
	AX7*	US-6,916,332	07-12-2005	Adams	
	AY7*	US-6,926,722	08-09-2005	Geitz	
	AZ7*	US-6,971,395	12-06-2005	Edwards et al.	
	AA8*	US-6,986,737	01-17-2006	Suzuki et al.	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	BI2	WO-02076541	10-03-2002	Curon Medical Inc	

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AB8*	US-7,033,370	04-25-2006	Gordon et al.	
	AC8*	US-7,087,073	08-08-2006	Bonutti	
	AD8*	US-20010056282	12-27-2001	Sonnenschein et al.	
	AE8*	US-20020010418	01-24-2002	Lary et al.	
	AF8*	US-20020063143	05-30-2002	Adams et al.	
	AG8*	US-20020082621	06-27-2002	Schurr et al.	
	AH8*	US-20020173786	11-21-2002	Kortenbach et al.	
	AI8*	US-20020193816	12-19-2002	Laufer et al.	
	AJ8*	US-20020198537	12-26-2002	Smith et al.	
	AK8*	US-20020198538	12-26-2002	Kortenbach et al.	
	AL8*	US-20020198539	12-26-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AM8*	US-20020198540	12-26-2002	Smith et al.	
	AN8*	US-20020198549	12-26-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AO8*	US-20030019905	01-30-2003	Adams et al.	
	AP8*	US-20030036679	02-20-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AQ8*	US-20030065340	04-03-2003	Geitz	
	AR8*	US-20030065359	04-03-2003	Weller et al.	
	AS8*	US-20030068326	04-10-2003	Gevas et al.	
	AT8*	US-20030069280	04-10-2003	Koch et al.	

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	AU8*	US-20030069646	04-10-2003	Stinson	
	AV8*	US-20030083241	05-01-2003	Young	
	AW8*	US-20030086968	05-08-2003	Gray	
	AX8*	US-20030092699	05-15-2003	Uchida et al.	
	AY8*	US-20030130560	07-10-2003	Suzuki et al.	
	AZ8*	US-20030130561	07-10-2003	Suzuki et al.	
	AA9*	US-20030135206	07-17-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AB9*	US-20030161887	08-28-2003	Klein	
	AC9*	US-20030163029	08-28-2003	Sonnenschein et al.	
	AD9*	US-20030171645	09-11-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AE9*	US-20030181929	09-25-2003	Geitz	
	AF9*	US-20030188755	10-09-2003	Milbocker	
	AG9*	US-20030192558	10-16-2003	Durgin	
	AH9*	US-20030192559	10-16-2003	Durgin	
	AI9*	US-20030195509	10-16-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AJ9*	US-20030196670	10-23-2003	Durgin	
	AK9*	US-20030199731	10-23-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AL9*	US-20030208209	11-06-2003	Gambale et al.	
	AM9*	US-20030208211	11-06-2003	Kortenbach	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)				

Examiner Signature	/Julian Woo/	Date Considered	07/29/2009
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/828,469-Conf. #5223
				Filing Date	April 21, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Michael D. Laufer
				Art Unit	3773
				Examiner Name	J. W. Woo
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AN9*	US-20030216754	11-20-2003	Kraemer et al.	
	AO9*	US-20030220657	11-27-2003	Adams	
	AP9*	US-20030220660	11-27-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AQ9*	US-20030236535	12-25-2003	Onuki et al.	
	AR9*	US-20030236536	12-25-2003	Grigoryants et al.	
	AS9*	US-20040006336	01-08-2004	Swanson	
	AT9*	US-20040010245	01-15-2004	Cerier et al.	
	AU9*	US-20040037887	02-26-2004	Bourne et al.	
	AV9*	US-20040044364	03-04-2004	DeVries et al.	
	AW9*	US-20040082859	04-29-2004	Schaer	
	AX9*	US-20040082950	04-29-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AY9*	US-6,461,366	10-08-2002	Seguin	
	AZ9*	US-6,315,184	11-13-2001	Whitman	
	AAA*	US-6,443,973	09-03-2002	Whitman	
	ABA*	US-6,716,233	04-06-2004	Whitman	
	ACA*	US-6,793,652	09-21-2004	Whitman et al.	
	ADA*	US-6,846,307-A1	01-25-2005	Whitman et al.	
	AEA*	US-6,846,308-A1	01-25-2005	Whitman et al.	
	AFA*	US-6,846,309-A1	01-25-2005	Whitman et al.	

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	AGA*	US-6,843,403	01-18-2005	Whitman	
	AHA*	US-6,849,071	02-01-2005	Whitman et al.	
	AIA*	US-6,981,941	01-03-2006	Whitman et al.	
	AJA*	US-7,032,798	04-25-2006	Whitman et al.	
	AKA*	US-7,077,856	07-18-2006	Whitman	
	ALA*	US-663639			
	AMA*	US-6,494,888	12-17-2002	Laufer et al.	
	ANA*	US-6,506,196	01-14-2003	Laufer	
	AOA*	US-6,609,140	08-19-2003	Greene	
	APA*	US-6,773,441	08-10-2004	Laufer et al.	
	AQA*	US-7,153,314	12-26-2006	Laufer et al.	
	ARA*	US-4,880,015	11-14-1989	Nierman	
	ASA*	US-5,485,952	01-23-1996	Fontayne	

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	CA	European Search Report dated September 2, 2004 in EP 04076389	
	CB**	International Search Report dated October 16, 2000	
	CC**	International Search Report dated October 22, 2003	
	CD**	Boerema MD 'Hiatus Hernia: Repair by right-sided, subhepatic, anterior gastropexy' Surgery, 65:884-893 (1969)	
	CE**	Carvalho PJPC et al 'Fibrosis of gastric cardia after endoscopic sclerosis. Mechanism for control of experimental reflux? Am Surg Mar. 1990; 56(3):163-6	
	CF**	DeMeester, MD et al 'Nissen Fundoplication for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease' Annals of Surgery 204:9-20 (1986)	
	CG**	Hill et al 'Surgery for Peptic Esophageal Stricture' 139-147.	
	CH**	Hill et al 'The Esophagus, Medical and Surgical Management' WB Saunders Co. 135-8 (1988)	
	CI**	Hill LD 'Myths of the esophagus' J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg July (1989)98(1):1-10.	
	CJ**	Hill MD 'An Effective Operation for Hiatal Hernia: An Eight Year Appraisal' Annals of Surgery (1967) 166:681-692.	

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	CK**	Kraemer, MD et al 'Laparoscopic Hill repair' Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Vol. 40 No. 2 155-159 (1994)	
	CL**	Mason et al 'Nissen Fundoplication Prevents Shortening of the Sphincter During Gastric Distention' ARCH SURG., 132:719-726 (1997)	
	CM**	Skinner et al 'Surgical management of esophageal reflux and hiatus hernia' Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (1967) Vol. 53, No. 1 pp. 33-54.	
	CN**	Starling et al 'Assessment of the Angelchik Prosthesis for Treatment of Symptomatic Esophageal Reflux' World J. Surg. 11, 350-355 (1987)	
	CO**	Slim K et al., Intraoperative esophageal manometry and funduplications: prospective study, World J Surg Jan. 1996;20(1):55-9..	
	CP**	Kahrilas, "Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," JAMA, 276:983-988 (1996)..	
	CQ**	Little, M.D., "Mechanisms of Action of Antireflux Surgery: Theory and Fact," World Journal of Surgery, 16:320-325 (1992).	
	CR**	McKernan, "Laparoscopic repair of gastroesophageal reflux disease," Surgical Endoscopy, 8:851-856 (1994)..	
	CS**	Falk, et al., "Laparoscopic Fundoplication: A preliminary report of the technique and postoperative care," Aust. N.Z. J. Surgery, 62:969-972 (1992).	
	CT**	Kadirkamanathan SS et al., An ambulant porcine model of acid reflux used to evaluate endoscopic gastroplasty. Gut Jun. 1999;44(6):782-8..	

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	CU**	Mason RJ et al., A new intraluminal antigastroesophageal reflux procedure in baboons. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1997 Mar.;45(3):283-90..	
	CV**	Hill LD et al., The gastroesophageal flap valve: in vitro and vivo observations. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1996 Nov.;44(5):541-7..	
	CW**	Cuschieri, et al., "Multicenter prospective evaluation of laparoscopic antireflux surgery," <i>Surgical Endoscopy</i> , 7:505-510 (1993)..	
	CX**	Hill LD, Intraoperative measurement of lower esophageal sphincter pressure. <i>J. Thorac Cardiovasc Surg</i> 1978 Mar.;75(3):378-82..	
	CY**	Ismail T. et al., Yield pressure, anatomy of the cardia and gastro-oesophageal reflux. <i>Br. J Surg</i> 1995 Jul.;82(7):943-7..	
	CZ**	Kadirkamanathan SS et al., Antireflux operations at flexible endoscopy using enodluminal stitching techniques: an experimental study. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1996 Aug.;44(2):133-43.	
	CA1**	<i>Digestive Disease Week, Orange County Convention Center</i> , p. A-802; 314.	
	CB1**	Contractor QQ et al., Endoscopic esphagitis and gastroesophageal flap valve. <i>J Clin Gastroenterol</i> Apr. 1999; 28 (3):233-7.	
	CC1**	Cecconello, "Esophagogastric Anastomosis with Valvuloplasty: An Experimental Study," <i>International Surgery</i> , 67:121-124 (1982).	
	CD1**	Collis, M.D., "An Operation for Hiatus Hernia with Short Esophagus," <i>The Journal of Thoracic Surgery</i> , 34:768-778 (1957).	

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			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
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	CF1**	Collis, M.D., "Surgical Control of Reflux in Hiatus Hernia," <u>The American Journal of Surgery</u> , 115:465-471 (1968).	
	CG1**	Donahue PE et al., Endoscopic sclerosis of the gastric cardia for prevention of experimental gastroesophageal reflux, <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1990 May-Jun. 36(3):253-6.	
	CH1**	Hill LD and Kozarek RA, The gastroesophageal flap valve, <u>J. Clin. Gastroenterol</u> 1999 Apr. 28(3): 194-7.	
	CI1**	Hill LD et al., Antireflux surgery. A surgeon's look, <u>Gastroenterol Clin. North Am.</u> , 1990 Sep. 19(3):745-75.	
	CJ1**	Hill LD, Myths of the esophagus, <u>J. Thorac Cardiovasc. Surg.</u> 1989 Jul. 9S(1):1-10.	
	CK1**	Hill, et al., "The Esophagus. Medical and Surgical Management," <u>WB Saunders Co.</u> , 135-8 (1988).	
	CL1**	Hinder, et al. "The Surgical Option for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," Symposium on Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, <u>Am. J. Med.</u> 103:144S-148S (1997).	
	CM1**	Ismail, et al., "Yield Pressure: A New Concept in the Evaluation of Gerd?," <u>AJG</u> , 91:616-617 (1996).	
	CN1**	Jamieson, et al., "Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 220:137-145 (1994).	
	CO1	European Search Report mailed July 10, 2007 in EP Application No. 07075291	

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	CO1**	Jamieson, et al., "The development of surgery for gastro-oesophageal reflux disease." <u>Surgery of the Oesophagus</u> , 233-245 (1988).	
	CP1**	Janssen, et al., "Prospective randomized comparison of teres cardiopexy and Nissen fundoplication in the surgical therapy of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease." <u>Br. J. Surg.</u> , 80:875-878 (1993).	
	CQ1**	Jennings, et al., "A Novel Endoscopic Transgastric Fundoplication Procedure for Gastroesophageal Reflux: An Initial Animal Evaluation," <u>Journal of Laparoendoscopic Surgery</u> , 2:207-213 (1992).	
	CR1**	McGouran RC and Galloway JM, A laser-induced scar at the cardia increases the yield pressure of the lower esophageal sphincter, <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1990 Sep.-Oct. 36(5):439-43.	
	CS1**	McGouran RC et al., Does measurement of yield pressure at the cardia during endoscopy provide information on the function of the lower oesophageal sphincter mechanism? <u>Gut</u> 1988 Mar. 29(3):275-8.	
	CT1**	Nathanson, et al., "Laparoscopic Ligamentum teres (round ligament) cardiopexy," <u>Br. J. Surg.</u> , 78:947-951 (1991).	
	CU1**	Nissen, "Eine einfache Operation zur Beeinflussung der Refluxoesophagitis," <u>Journal Suisse de Medecine</u> , 590-592 (1956).	
	CV1**	O'Connor KW and Lehman GA, Endoscopic placement of collagen at the lower esophageal sphincter to inhibit gastroesophageal reflux: a pilot study of 10 medically intractable patients. <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1988 Mar.-Apr. 34(2):106-12.	
	CW1**	O'Connor KW et al., An experimental endoscopic technique for reversing gastroesophageal reflux in dogs by injecting inert material in the distal esophagus. <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1984 Oct. 30(5):275-80.	
	CX1**	O'Connor, et al., "Endoscopic placement of collagen at the lower esophageal sphincter to inhibit gastroesophageal reflux: a pilot study of 10 medically intractable patients," <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , 34:106-112 (1988).	

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	CY1**	Pedinielli, "Traitement Chirurgical de la Herinie Hiatale Par La Technique du Collet," <u>Ann. Chir.</u> , 18:1461-1474 (1964). (English Abstract)	
	CZ1**	Polk, et al., "Hiatal Hernia and Esophagitis: A survey of indications for operation and technic and results of fundoplication," <u>Ann. Surg.</u> , 173:775-781 (1971).	
	CA2**	Rampal, et al., "Technique Chirurgicale, Traitement des hernies hiatales et du reflux aesophagien par la cardio-plexie avec le ligament round de foie," <u>La Presse Medicale</u> , 75:617-619 (1967).	
	CB2**	Rich, "Simple GERD Treatment Offers New Alternative" (www.medicalpost.com website), March 1999.	
	CC2**	Rupp TH and Lehman GA, Endoscopic antireflux techniques. Endoluminal and laparoscopic. <u>Gastrointest. Endosc. Clin. N. Am.</u> 1994 Apr. 4(2):353-68.	
	CD2**	Shafik A., Intraesophageal Polytef injection for the treatment of reflux esophagitis. <u>Surg. Endosc.</u> 1996 Mar. 10(3):329-31.	
	CE2**	Singh et al., "Evaluation of the Endoscopic Suturing System in the Treatment of the GERD," Conference Abstract for Plenary Session for Digestive Disease Week, p. 314 & A-802, May 16-19, 1999.	
	CF2**	The Americal journal of gastroenterology, Vol. 91, No. 3, 1996, pg. 616-617.	
	CG2**	Thor KBA et al., Reappraisal of the flap valve mechanism in the gastroesophageal junction. A study of a new valvuloplasty procedure in cadavers. <u>Acta Chir Scand</u> 1987 Jan. 153(1):25-8.	
	CH2**	Tocornal, M.D., et al., "A mucosol flap valve mechanism to prevent gastroesophageal reflux and esophagitis, <u>Surgery</u> , 64:519-523 (1968).	

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	CI2**	Wang, et al., "A new anti-flux procedure: cardiac oblique invagination," <u>Chung Hua Wai Ko Tsa Chih</u> , Feb. 33 (2) 73-5 (1995). (English Abstract).	
	CJ2**	Watson, et al., "Comparison of anterior, posterior and total fundoplication using a viscera model," <u>Diseases of the Esophagus</u> , 10:110-114 (1997).	
	CK2**	Westbrook, et al., "Posterior Surgical Approaches to the Rectum," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 195:677-691 (1982).	
	CL2	European Search Report mailed July 10, 2007 in EP Application No. 07075291	
	CM2	02/20/09, Office Action for USSN 10/819,957	

Examiner Signature	/Julian Woo/	Date Considered	07/29/2009
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /J.W./